

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:573

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001

REPORT ON NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM

CHANDRA NATH SINGH;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers set up to review the National Security System in the aftermath of the Kargil crisis has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof;

(c) whether Government have accepted all the recommendations and plan to constitute an Intelligence Coordination Group and Defence Intelligence Agency; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to implement them?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 17th April 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee, and to formulate specific proposals for implementation. The GoM consisted of the Home Minister, the Raksha Mantri, the External Affairs Minister and the Finance Minister. The GoM had after careful consideration of various issues formulated a comprehensive Report titled 'Reforming the National Security System', which was presented to the Prime Minister on February 26, 2001. The important areas focused in the GoM Report relate to Intelligence Apparatus, Internal Security, Border Management and Management of Defence. The main recommendations of the Report of the GoM in so far as management of Defence is concerned include establishment of

(i) the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS),

(ii) The Defence Staff,

(iii) a Defence Procurement Board,

(iv) a Defence Intelligence Agency,

(v) a National Defence University,

(vi) Andaman & Nicobar Command,

(vii) Strategic Forces Command,

(viii) Integrated HQs in the Ministry of Defence,

(ix) Enhanced Delegation of Administrative Powers to Integrated HQs., as also the preparation of holistic and integrated Defence Perspective Plans for 15-20 years and effective media management. The GoM has also made recommendations for strengthening the mechanism for gathering and dissemination of intelligence, rejuvenation of State Police Forces/Central Para Military Forces, national service for the youth, expanding NCC and service in the Territorial Army, upgradation of the efficacy of the civil defence organisation, setting up of village defence committees in rural areas, revamp of criminal justice system and strengthening, training and equipping of Border Guarding Forces etc. The recommendations made in the Report of the GoM have been approved by the Government on May 11, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the CDS will be taken after consultations with various political parties. The implementation of the recommendations of the GoM has already commenced. In order to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in a time bound manner, the implementation process is being closely monitored by the Government.